Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00520 311032Z

17
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 H-01 NSC-05 SS-15 OMB-01 SAM-01 AEC-05 /070 W
---------- 109550
P R 310935Z JAN 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9848
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCLANT
USDELMC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T USNATO 520

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, UK
SUBJECT: UK DEFENSE REVIEW

REF: A. USNATO 6745
B. USDELMC 70/75 DTG 231705Z JAN 75

SUMMARY. PROCESS OF NATO CONSULTATION ON UK DEFENSE REVIEW WILL CULMINATE IN DPC DISCUSSION PRESENTLY SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 7. MISSION ASSUMES THAT WASHINGTON IS FINALIZING GUIDANCE FOR OUR USE IN THIS DISCUSSION. THIS CABLE REVIEW FORMAL CONSULTATIONS TO DATE AND SUGGESTS ALLIANCE-RELATED CONSIDERATIONS WHICH SHOULD UNDERLIE US POITION IN DPC. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY BRUSSELS OOB FEBRUARY 5. END SUMMARY.

1. FORMAL NATO CONSULTATIONS ON UK DEFENSE REVIEW BEGAN WITH UK PRESENTATIONS TO DPC AND MC DECEMBER 3 (REF A), AND TO MNC'S DURING FOLLOWING WEEK. UNDER C-M(55)82 PROCEDURES, WHICH CALL FOR QUOTE AN ESTIMATE OF THE MILITARY EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED ALTERATIONS END QUOTE, CMC REQUESTED MNC ASSESSMENTS. THESE
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 00520 311032Z

ARRIVED AT NATO WEEK OF JANUARY 12, AND FORM THE BASIS OF DRAFT MCM (REF B) WHICH MC WILL CONSIDER IN SPECIAL MEETING JANUARY 31.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

2. DRAFT MCM NOTES THAT UK DECISION TO REDUCE DEFENSE EXPENDITURE AS A PERCENTAGE OF GNP IS FIRM, BUT URGES UK AUTHORITIES TO QUOTE RECONSIDER THE RESOURCES THEY INTEND TO MAKE AVAILABLE FOR DEFENSE IN THE FUTURE AND THE PROPOSED REDUCTIONS IN, AND PLANS FOR THEIR FORCES END QUOTE. IT URGES, AT A MINIMUM, MAINTENANCE OF MARITIME AND AIR PRESENCE IN SOUTHERN REGION, RAISING FORECAST ASW AND MINE COUNTERMEASURES CAP-ABILITIES, AND INCLUDING OPTION FOR REINFORCEMENT OF SOUTHERN FLANK, BUT STATES QUOTE RECONSIDERATION OF THESE PARTICULAR CAPABILITIES SHOULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS END QUOTE.

3. IN MISSION VIEW, GIVEN FIRM UK DECISION ON AMOUNT OF DEFENSE REDUCTIONS, MILITARY AUTHORITIES BY REATIFYING DRAFT MCM WILL ALSO HAVE RATIFIED THE PRIORITIES ON WHICH THE UK PROPOSES TO SHAPE ITS NATO COMMITMENT OVER THE LONG TERM, 8.E. CENTER REGION OVER SOTHERN FLANK. MISSION VELIEVES US RESPONSE IN DPC SHOULD BE GEARED TO THE QUESTION OF PRIORITIES, RATHER THAN QUESTION OF MONETARY AMOUNT OF REDUCTIONS, ON WHICH BRITISH SEEM FIRM. THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB OF ASSESS-MENT, BUT HAVE NOT OFFERED ALTERNATIVES TO REDUCTION APPROACHES ON WHICH THE UK ASKED FOR CONSULTATIONS. NO OTHER ALLY IS LIKELY TO OFFER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES, AND IF US HAS VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT, IT SHOULD PUT THEM FORWARD IN THIS FINAL ROUND.

4. MISSION SUGGESTS FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS AS BACKGROUND FOR FINALIZING GUIDANCE ON THIS ISSUE:

A. EXTENT TO WHICH UK PROPOSALS RUN COUNTER TO US LONG-TERM ALLIANCE GOALS, PARTICULARLY THOSE URGING MAINTENANCE OF FORCE LEVELS AS A BASIS FOR STALWART CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITY.

B. PRECENDENT-SETTING EFFECT OF UK PROPOSALS, NOT ONLY FOR OTHER ALLIES, WHO MIGHT SEE A WEAK US RESPONSE AS JUSTIFICATION FOR SIMILAR REDUCTIONS, BUT ALSO FOR UK LABOR GOVERNMENT, WHICH MIGHT SEE THE SAME AS LICENSE

SECRET

FOR FURTHER CUTS.

C. EFFECT WHICH US FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE SUB-STANTIVELY IN DPC DISCUSSION OF UK PROPOSALS WOULD HAVE ON FUTURE VIABILITY OF ALLIANCE CONSULTATION PROCEDURES IN DEFENSE AREA.

D. ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS OF US TO FILL IN SOME GAPS LEFT BY UK WITHDRAWALS.

5. IN MISSION VIEW, US POSITION AT FEBRUARY 7 DPC MEETING SHOULD AVOID TWIN PITFALLS OF "STONEWALLING" AND BLAND ACQUIESENCE. IF WE ACCEPT THE UK MONETARY TOTALS AS FIRM, WE SHOULD SEARCH FOR BEST WAYS TO IMPLEMENT THEM, KEEPING IN MIND THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES' TOP THREE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

PRIORITIES FOR RESTORATIONS IN PROPOSED UK CUTS.
ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY BRUSSELS OOB FEBRUARY 5.
BRUCE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO00520
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750188/abbrzhxk.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 6745 B. USDELMC 70/75 DTG 231705Z JAN 75
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <10 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UK DEFENSE REVIEW
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, UK
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCLANT
BRUSSELS

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006